



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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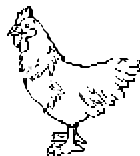
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Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was mixed, but overall ranged about steady to weak. Retail demand was slow to fair with first of the month movement disappointing, but hopes to improve towards the end of the week. Food service was fair to moderate. Supplies of all sizes were at least adequate with heavier weights occasionally long. In the parts structure, trading was light and selective with regular commitments usually sufficient to handle needs. Availability was adequate to ample with wings and leg items more available and often discounted. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable to at times heavier.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 62.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.00 cents last year on April 4, 2001.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	180.00
BREASTS - B/S	134.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	68.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	84.50
LEG QUARTERS	20.00
WINGS	68.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was steady at best. Retail demand was light to fair with first of the month business not quite up to expectations. Food service was slightly better especially where fast food promotions were present. Supplies were at least sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was light. Supplies of all items were at least adequate or readily available with some discounting present on wings to help move. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Midweek trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light and unaggressive as dealers maintained closely balanced floorstocks. Offerings of the 2.5 pound sizes were readily available and the 3 pound and heavier birds were at least adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels was slow. The market tone was barely steady on the 2.5 pound birds and about steady on the balance. In the parts complex, breast items were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were fully adequate. Wings were ample and discounted.

MIDWEST The trade sentiment for whole broiler/fryers was barely steady, undertone weak. Offerings of heavy weight whole fryers and WOG's were plentiful with lighter weight product adequate. Buyers were cautious, selective and generally satisfied through regular commitments. First of the month movement into retail centers was sluggish and disappointing with increased demand anticipated by week's end. Food service demand was irregular and tapering, mostly fair to moderate. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with weights desirable. In the parts complex, offerings were slow to clear as buyer interest continues cautious and unaggressive. The market tone was cautious and unsettled on breast items with dark meat items and wings barely steady to weak.

WESTERN The market tone was steady. Offerings ample. Retailer demand moderate overall. Floor stocks adequate. Parts mainly steady.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 03/30/02	2002	2001	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	185,781	182,666	+02
CHICKS PLACED	150,999	150,234	+01
19 STATES			
EGGS SET	207,466	-	-
CHICKS PLACED	170,120	-	-

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 186 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 30, 2002. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 1 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 151 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 30, 2002. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 2001. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2001 through March 30, 2002 were 1.94 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Four Additional States in Weekly Program

Beginning May 16, 2001 four additional States were added to the weekly program for broiler eggs set in incubators and broiler chicks placed for meat production. The four additional States are Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, and Oklahoma. Data collection and weekly estimates began with the week ending April 7, 2001.

Commercial hatcheries for the 19 States set a total of 170 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 30, 2002. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2001 through March 30, 2002 in the 19 States totaled 2.20 billion.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 11-May-02 IS ESTIMATED AT 156.0 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 156.2 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 158.5 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 158.9 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 59.10 CENTS PER POUND.

APRIL 02, 2002

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APRIL 03, 2002

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	858	112.00-189.00	119-122	122.24
TENDERLOINS	155	135.00-195.00	-	146.20
BREAST - LINE RUN	88	65.00-68.00	65-67	66.89
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	89	25.00-36.00	25-26	26.11
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	349	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.42
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,230	15.00-25.50	17-19	18.31
WINGS (WHOLE)	281	54.00-71.00	66-69	68.06
WINGS (CUT)	332	72.00-79.00	74-77	75.28
DRUMSTICKS	69	36.00-50.00	-	37.83
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	858	112.00-189.00	119-122	122.24
TENDERLOINS	160	135.00-195.00	-	145.50
BREAST - LINE RUN	113	64.00-69.00	64-67	66.25
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	89	25.00-36.00	25-26	26.11
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	389	13.00-18.00	13-14	13.42
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,230	15.00-25.50	18-19	18.89
WINGS (WHOLE)	327	52.00-71.00	67-69	67.56
WINGS (CUT)	325	70.00-81.00	74-77	75.96
DRUMSTICKS	78	34.00-40.00	-	34.92
THIGHS	29	36.00-44.00	-	41.52
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
37.00 - 40.50	37.55	36.50 - 39.00	36.71	37.04

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was noted as light and typical of midweek trading. Offerings of breast items were at least sufficient. Dark meat cuts were fully adequate. Wings were ample and often available at discounted levels to stimulate sales. Movement through retail and distributive channels was generally fair at best with feature activity generating lukewarm consumer interest. The market tone was barely steady to weak on wings, no better than steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES APRIL 02, 2002

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	120	124.47	338,464
TENDERLOINS	125-130	131.36	89,160
BREAST - WITH RIBS	59-60	61.82	141,080
BREAST - LINE RUN	59	59.33	108,000
LEGS	32-33	36.79	75,760
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	17.95	639,410
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	32.23	179,340
THIGHS	25-26	32.19	45,490
B/S THIGHS	81-82	79.69	46,030
WINGS (WHOLE)	62-63	58.99	343,520
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	13.41	26,680
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	20-25	18.84	10,960
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	43.58	31,790

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	120	123.24	455,360
TENDERLOINS	125-130	133.92	73,720
BREAST - WITH RIBS	59-60	65.56	144,760
BREAST - LINE RUN	59	59.31	176,760
LEGS	32-33	36.66	115,800
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17-18	18.82	461,517
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	33.66	83,200
THIGHS	25-26	31.25	92,420
B/S THIGHS	81-82	84.12	73,520
WINGS (WHOLE)	60-61	65.34	293,840
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.98	35,240
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	20-25	21.89	10,600
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	43.48	18,360

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	04/03	04/02	04/01	03/29	04/01
ALA	3,989	4,047	3,648	2,947	5.09
ARK	5,342	5,307	5,234	4,747	4.93
DELMARVA	2,339	2,340	1,377	1,829	5.20
KY-LA-TN	2,080	1,999	1,759	1,805	4.30
MISS	2,878	2,813	2,606	2,490	5.43
NC	2,493	2,639	1,954	1,538	6.13
TEXAS	2,404	2,402	2,186	2,560	4.91
TOTAL	21,525	21,547	18,764	17,916	5.11
MON-WED 62,579 (A)					61,618 (A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 03-Apr 02 is estimated to be 32,204,000, up 4.33 percent from a week ago and up 8.4 percent from a year ago.
(Last week 30,866,000; last year 29,720,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	85-87
ROASTERS 4# & UP	85-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	75
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 92-93
	DRY PACK 94-101
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104-113
	DRY PACK 113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 94-98
	DRY PACK -
DUCKS	152-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 06-APRIL-02

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	04/06/02 (1)	03/30/02
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	160,045 (2)	154,490
LT HENS	2,152	1,949
HVY HENS	1,306	1,293
CHECK TOTAL	163,503	157,732

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 06-Apr-02 is 157.9 million head compared to 155.7 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 160.4 million head or 2.5 million more than estimated available. For week of 13-Apr-02 the estimated available is 159.3 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 1-Apr-02	164,226	77,627
AM 1-Mar-02	141,676	77,105
CHG	22,550	522
PCT CHG	16	1

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	04/01/02	03/25/02	04/02/01	04/01/02	03/25/02	04/02/01
PACIFIC						
COAST	14,272	18,055	15,382	3,801	3,892	6,100
LOS						
ANGELES	96	89	172	2,040	2,140	2,849

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF APRIL 01, 2002

	RANGE
HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	57-60
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	60-69

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

	FOR 4/02/02		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.05	.85	.45
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.30	.80	.59
BANTAMS lb.	-	1.05	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.40	1.55	.82
GEESE lb.	.55	.95	.68
TURKEYS lb.	-	1.40	-
DUCKS lb.	1.45	1.55	1.49
RABBITS lb.	.20	1.65	.93
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES lb.	-	-	-
GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-

TOTAL COOPS 108

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending March 22, 2002

Whole	Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/
Chickens	Breasts	W/ Thighs	& Wings
Gizzards			
Hens			

REPORT NOT AVAILABLE**DELMARVA**

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair at best with activity generally noted as typical for the mid-part of the week. Seller offerings were fully adequate for current inquiry. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were often heavier than desired. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than truckload asking prices were unchanged at 47 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment remained about steady. In the parts complex, all items continued to be available for the light and spotty buying interest, particularly wings. ACTUAL SLAUGHTER WEEK ENDING 03/30/2002 WAS 10,451,679 @ 5.16 LBS. *BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED
	U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	44-64
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	49.57
NO. OF BOXES	9,002

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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